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THIS WEEK'S NEWS FROM

Inside Washington

CBS News Conceals Identity of CIA Critic

Ignoring the demand of full disclosure that it tries to impose on other institutions in American society, the CBS Evening News last week concealed the true identity and background of a key source in a two-part series attacking the CIA. The source was portrayed as just a researcher or scholar, when, in fact, he is the hippie-like editor of a publication that seeks the abolition of the CIA.

The series, which aired on the nights of May 14

and 15, focused on charges that the CIA was involved in a Hawaii-based investment firm, Bishop-Baldwin, that went bankrupt last year. Among other things, according to correspondent Barry Peterson, the firm was involved in arranging the sale of sophisticated arms to the Republic of China on Taiwan.

Peterson claimed that company records "obtained by CBS News" showed that "CIA agents, claiming to be Bishop-Baldwin employees, traveled worldwide [and] negotiated a major arms deal with Taiwan—tanks and planes and other military equipment—a deal the U.S. government couldn't make openly without damaging U.S. relations with [Communist] China."

Such a deal, if it was attempted, is now dead, thanks to CBS News. But the real target of the report was clearly the CIA. Peterson introduced someone he identified as John Kelly, who "has studied the CIA for a decade, including Bishop-Baldwin."

"I concluded that it was a major CIA operation," Kelly told the viewers of CBS. "I would characterize it as covering pretty much the full spectrum of CIA operations, including domestic operations, which, of course, are illegal. The CIA is prohibited by its charter from conducting operations within the confines of the United States."

The viewers of CBS were left with the impression, encouraged by Peterson, that some intellectual-type had come to the scholarly conclusion

that the CIA had been engaging in criminal activities on a large scale.

But the identification of Kelly as just a student of the CIA is like saying that Walter Mondale has merely applied for a job in the White House. Kelly has studied the CIA all right, but he has studied the agency with the intention of destroying it.

Kelly, in fact, is an editor of the notorious publication, *CounterSpy*, which, in its statement of purpose, attacks the CIA as an institution that "has systematically violated the fundamental rights and freedoms of people in this country and the world over." *CounterSpy* has consistently and openly advocated the abolition of the CIA.

For many years, before the Congress outlawed the practice, *CounterSpy* published the names of purported CIA agents, thus making them vulnerable to terrorist attack. The magazine's exposure of CIA agent Richard Welch preceded his murder by terrorists in Greece in 1975.

Kelly began his association with the magazine in 1976, when it published an article in which he claimed that the U.S. had "committed systematic war crimes and crimes against humanity on a daily basis" during the Vietnam War. Kelly was identified as a member of a group called the War Crimes Project.

At the time, one of *CounterSpy*'s associate editors was Philip Agee, the defector from the CIA who has worked with Communist-bloc intelligence services against United States interests around the world.

Agee and his associates ceased publication of *CounterSpy* in early 1978, and formed another anti-CIA magazine, *Covert Action Information Bulletin*.

But *CounterSpy* re-emerged in 1979 under the editorship of John Kelly and Konrad Ege.

For Kelly and Ege, it's the United States, not the Soviet Union, which is the threat to world peace. *CounterSpy* has tried to dismiss or discredit charges that the Soviet Union uses chemical warfare, maintains slave labor camps, and conducts "active measures" campaigns of propaganda and

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